

March 18, 1976

SENATOR WARNER: The projection is the same. I saw a newspaper, a story that requires additional questions. I think I saw a newspaper story a day or two ago which was restricted to only the sales tax, as I recall, only to December. The impression, at least, I got from it and maybe mistakenly, was that the sales tax receipts for December was some percent in excess of what was, had been anticipated. Is that correct or do these figures reflect that or was the increase of such minor significance that it had no impact?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Well apparently not, Senator Warner, and I recall the same article. It was about a little over 2% increase over a year ago in December from the sales tax alone. And I am assuming and since this was updated the last of February, I'm assuming that that was taken into consideration.

SENATOR WARNER: One other question, if I may Mr. President. Senator Carsten, could we assume that you will request that we will be provided also the estimated receipts on a monthly basis as was provided by statute together with the current receipts which would have been due about three days ago?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes, sir I'll...

SENATOR WARNER: From February so that we can see exactly how it stands?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes, sir..

SENATOR WARNER: I would assume that would be available tomorrow do you think?

SENATOR CARSTEN: I certainly hope so and I'll make an attempt to do that, Senator.

SENATOR WARNER: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Well Mr. Chairman, we are two days late for this annual event. This always happens on about the 11th day. We have got all the way down to number 9. It's called the shell game, perfected, no "p". In the four years that I have been here this has been the same circumstance every year. I think as we look at the bills in our determination, we determine what the legitimate needs of the State are and we sent them over. Now there are some in the body who want to set the tax rates. For two years I've tried to solve that. If you want to set the rates at 2 and one half and 15, I can ask unanimous consent to unbracket 167 on the Board now. Let's get it one way or another. When we start talking about the legislature setting the tax rates, you say that's a legitimate function of the Board of Equalization and they can set them on the basis of what we appropriate. Then when somebody comes out with a set of figures on an annual basis and you start saying, wait a minute, wait a minute. I'm going to go back and do something for you, because of my keen interest in this, Senator Carsten, I've kept the projected figures and what the ultimate outcome was and strangely enough every year there's a significant difference about how many dollars we have available at the crucial time in the session and how much